REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected. Claims 1-3 and 7-10 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-10 are pending and under consideration. No new matter has been added. The rejections are traversed below.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph:

On page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-3 and 7-10 have been amended in consideration of the Examiner's comments and it is submitted that they satisfy the requirements of the statute. If additional concerns with the claims arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone to resolve the same. Suggestions by the Examiner are also welcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b):

On pages 2-4 of the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-3 and 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pre-Grant Publication No. US2002/0059210 ('210).

'210 discusses a method for performing hierarchical searches by selecting successively lower hierarchical levels that seem relevant to the desired information (see FIGS. 2-8; page 5, paragraphs [0046]-[0052]).

The present invention relates to a computer program and processing method wherein a name space ontology is generated and stored based on name information in a first database, and each name constituting the name space ontology is linked with multimedia information and the multimedia information is stored in a second database (see claims 1, 9, and 10; page 10, lines 4-11; and page 17, lines 16-22).

The Examiner compares the '210 hierarchical searching with the automatic ontology generation of the method of the present invention. In '210, a user selects "...from one of the highest-level hierarchical subjects 54 listed on display 28 to 'burrow-in' to a desired piece of information by selecting successively lower hierarchical levels that seem relevant to the desired information..." (see FIG. 2; paragraph [0046]). Further, a user in '210 may perform an index based search wherein "...the user is enabled to select an item from an indexed list that

represents a hierarchical level, which is associated with no lower hierarchical levels, other than database records..." (page 2, paragraph [0013]).

The present invention, on the other hand, provides a computer program and method wherein the system links each name that constitutes the ontology with the multimedia information. As recited in amended independent claim 1, the present invention includes a computer program "...setting a specific element from an installation space where each element to be given a name is hierarchically expressed; generating a name space ontology based on name information, and storing the name space ontology generated to a first database, wherein the name space ontology is a group of name candidates with the specific element being set as a top level; and linking each name constituting the name space ontology with multimedia information and storing the multimedia information to a second database". Claims 9 and 10 also recite generating a name space ontology and linking each name with multimedia information. This means that the present invention in fact creates a link between each name in the ontology with the multimedia information. The '210 hierarchical searching does not teach or suggest such a linking of each name in the ontology with the multimedia information.

It is submitted that the independent claims are patentable over '210.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, dependent claim 2, depending from independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over '210. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. As recited in claim 2, the generating includes "...wherein the generating includes generating the name space ontology according to the specific element being set". The '210 hierarchical searching does not teach or suggest the generating of a name space ontology based on a specific set element.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

On pages 4-5 of the outstanding Office Action, claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over '210, in view of U.S. Pre-Grant Publication No. US2004/0003005 ('005).

'005 discusses a duplicate data records identification system for detecting duplicate records stored in one or more tables that include multiple fields (page 2, paragraph [0012]).

The Examiner acknowledges that '210 fails to disclose the detection of duplicate names on page 4 of the Office Action. The '005 duplicate data records identification system identifies co-occurrence by "...identifying a first set of record tokens in the table or tables that are

contained with a first record field from records in the table or tables…a second set of record tokens in the table or tables from other child record fields that are hierarchically linked to records contributing tokens to the first set of record tokens" (page 2, paragraph [0013]). Further, '005 determines a "…commonality between tokens in said first token set or commonality in the second token set…" in order to "…identify possible duplicate records" (page 2, paragraph [0013]).

The combination of the '210 hierarchical searching and the '005 duplicate data records identification system results in a method for performing hierarchical searches by selecting successively lower hierarchical levels that seem relevant to the desired information and detecting duplicate records stored in one or more tables that include multiple fields.

The burden of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness based upon the prior art lies with the Examiner. In re Fritch, 23 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1780, 1783 (Fed. Cir. 1992). According to In re Fritch, the Examiner "… can satisfy this burden only by showing some objective teaching in the prior art or that knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art would lead that individual to combine the relevant teachings of the references." The combination of the '210 hierarchical searching and the '005 duplicate data records identification system does not teach or suggest "…generating a name space ontology based on name information, and storing the name space ontology generated to a first database, wherein the name space ontology is a group of name candidates with the specific element being set as a top level; and *linking* each name constituting the name space ontology *with multimedia information* and storing the multimedia information to a second database…" [*Emphasis Added*], as claimed in claim 1 from which claims 4 and 5 depend.

It is submitted that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the combination of the '210 hierarchical searching and the '005 duplicate data records identification system. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.
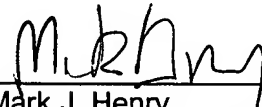
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Jan 18 2005

By: Mark J. Henry
Registration No. 36,162

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501